1	2	3	4	5
12.	Haryana	BSNL	12.07.2007	3.8
13.	Uttar Pradesh (West)	BSNL	28.01.2006	3.8
		Idea	28.01.2006	1.8
14.	Uttar Pradesh (East)	BSNL	28.01.2006	3.8
		Bharti	21.01.2009	1.0
		Vodafone	28.01.2006	2.0
15.	Rajasthan	BSNL	08.06.2006	1.8
		Bharti	23.12.2008	2.0
16.	Madhya Pradesh	BSNL	10.05.2007	3.8
		IDEA	02.11.2006	1.8
		Bharti	08.01.2007	1.8
17.	West Bengal	BSNL	12.03.2007	1.8
18.	Himachal Pradesh	BSNL	12.07.2007	3.8
19.	Bihar	Bharti	09.06.2006	3.0
		Reliance	23.10.2006	1.8
		BSNL	24.08.2006	3.8
20.	Orissa	BSNL	10.05.2007	3.8
		Bharti	16.09.2006	1.8
21.	Assam	BSNL	24.05.2007	3.8
22.	North East	BSNL	10.05.2007	3.8
23.	Jammu and Kashmir	BSNL	16.06.2006	1.8

Outstanding amount

2891. SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any outstanding against various categories of telephone subscribers at the end of March, 2008;

(b) the contribution of private subscribers to this dues;

(c) whether Government has taken any steps to clear the dues; and

(d) the share of private companies in this dues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. BSNL and MTNL have

outstanding against various categories of telephone subscribers at the end of March, 2008. The category-wise details of the outstanding dues, including against private subscriber to be recovered by BSNL and MTNL as on 31.03.2008 is as follows:—

(Amount in Rs. crores)

	State Government	Central Government	Defence	Private subscribers	Total
BSNL	164.21	94.46	33.68	4850.37	5142.72
MTNL*	2.39	14.17	3.02	1169.04	1188.62

*For GSM and CDMA, MTNL does not compile these figures category-wise.

(c) Yes, Sir. BSNL and MTNL have taken many steps to recover the outstanding dues, the details are given in the Statement (*See* below).

(d) Separate figures of outstanding dues against Private Companies are not compiled by BSNL and MTNL, however, it is included in the amount due from private subscribers.

Statement

Details of steps taken by BSNL and MTNL to recover the outstanding dues

BSNL and MTNL have taken following steps to recover the outstanding dues:—

(1) Automatic payment reminders are issued through Interactive Voice Response System (IVRS) to persuade the customers to make payment before disconnection of their telephones.

(2) Phones are disconnected as per the prescribed schedule in case of non payment of dues by customers. This is followed by permanent closure of telephone and adjustment of security deposit against the outstanding dues.

(3) Unit-wise and year-wise targets are fixed-for recovery/liquidation of outstanding dues and progress in this regard is closely monitored at the Corporate level and suitable instructions are issued from time to time to field units for improving the recovery of dues.

(4) Recovery Agents are employed for making recoveries.

(5) Various discount/incentive schemes are launched for recovery of outstanding from defaulting subscribers.

(6) Legal proceedings wherever required are initiated against the defaulters for recovery of dues.

(7) BSNL has requested various State Governments to amend their respective land revenue Acts, so that outstanding telephone dues of BSNL can be recovered as land revenue arrears.

(8) MTNL is implementing a Revenue Assurance program to maximize the revenue billing and revenue realization. It has also deployed a reputed firm to conduct Revenue Assurance Audit of its landline interconnect billing process. Convergent billing system is also being introduced by MTNL for improving recovery of dues.

Piracy in cyber world

2892. SHRI Y.P. TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the piracy is on the rise in cyber world;

(b) the steps taken by Government to check this menace;

(c) whether anybody has been arrested in such a case; and

(d) the full details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) As per the BSA-IDC Piracy Study conducted in 2008, the rate of personal computer (PC) software piracy dropped in 2008 in about half (57) of the 110 countries studied, remained the same in about a third (36) and rose in just 16. However, the worldwide PC software piracy rate rose for the second year in a row, from 38 percent to 41 percent, largely because PC shipments grew fastest in countries such as China and India.

(b) The steps taken by the Government to control software piracy include the followings:—

(i) In India the Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) of software is covered under Copyright Law, violation of which attracts both fine and imprisonment on a mandatory basis. A Police Officer of the rank of Sub-Inspector is empowered to seize infringing copies, duplicating and other equipments used for making infringing copies, without a warrant. The Copyright Act also prohibits the sale or to give on hire, or offer for sale or hire, any copy of the computer programme without specific authorization of the Copyright holder.

(ii) Government has also set up a Copyright Enforcement Advisory Council (under MHRD); the nodal Administrative Ministry) which reviews the progress of enforcement of Copyright Act and also advises on measures - both on the policy front as well as on the implementation front for its better enforcement. Special Cells for monitoring the enforcement of copyright have been set at Police Headquarters in the States/UTs.

(iii) Computer Software is exempted from Customs Duty.

(iv) Instructions have been issued to various Government Departments to only use legal copies of software. Ministry of Human Resource Development and Department of Information Technology, Government of India, as well as NASSCOM, sponsor Software Management Seminars to enhance awareness.